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COUNTRY China

DATE:

SUBJECT

ORIGIN

Economic Information: Combination of Electric

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Power Companies, Hongkong

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SUPPLEMENT

The Hongkong Electric Company which supplies light and power to Victoria Island and the China Light and Power Company which supplies light and power to Kowloon and Hongkong have recently combined to increase their efficiency and overall power output.

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

- 2. Because of the stripping of the Hongkong Electric Company during the Japanese occupation it is barely able to supply present Hongkong requirements. Its peak power output is said to be 24,000 kilowatts. The China Light and Power Company with its stand-by equipment has more than sufficient power needed for Kowloon and the New Territories. Its peak power output is 26,000 kilowatts. A large under-water cable is to be laid so that the China Light and Power Company will be able to supplement the Hongkong Electric Company. The peak power output of the two companies combined will reach 160,000 kilowatts.*
- 3. These two completely British-owned companies are said to be planning negotiations with the Kwangtung authorities with regard to supplying power to Kwangtung Province by supplementing the Canton city power and supplying power to the Swatow area. 25X1X6 25X1X6

the companies think the Canton authorities will approach them for assistance in power supply, but this is very unlikely because the Canton plant is a large profitmaking organization with good future prospects. The present difficulty 25x4xx coal shortage brought on by lack of transportation.)

Note: The original report does not explain the increase in power output; but probably some expansion is expected.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the pocument Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States. Next Review Date: 2008

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